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BULLETIN

OF THE

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Issued in
JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, JULY, SEPTEMBER AND
NOVEMBER

There is no subscription price, and the Bulletin is sent only to members of the Association.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President—Henry E. Legler, Public library, Chicago.
First Vice-President—E. H. Anderson, Public library, New York.

Second Vice-President—Mary F. Isom, Library Association, Portland, Ore.

Executive Board—The president, two vice-presidents and

Herbert Putnam, Library of Congress, Washington.

Purd B. Wright, Public library, Kansas City, Mo.

C. W. Andrews, John Crerar library, Chicago.

Linda A. Eastman, Public library, Cleveland.

H. C. Wellman, Library Association, Springfield, Mass.

T. W. Koch, University of Michigan library, Ann Arbor.

Secretary—George B. Utley, 78 E. Washington Street, Chicago.

Treasurer—Carl B. Roden, Public library, Chicago.

Executive offices—78 E. Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.

ATTENDANCE AT MIDWINTER MEETINGS

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Colorado | 1 |
| District of Columbia | 1 |
| Illinois | 34 |
| Indiana | 3 |
| Iowa | 8 |
| Kansas | 4 |
| Kentucky | 2 |
| Michigan | 6 |
| Minnesota | 8 |
| Missouri | 10 |
| Nebraska | 3 |
| New Jersey | 2 |
| New York | 11 |
| North Dakota | 4 |
| Ohio | 10 |
| Oklahoma | 1 |
| Oregon | 1 |
| Pennsylvania | 2 |
| Wisconsin | 21 |

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Ontario | 1 |
| Quebec | 1 |

Total134

Representatives from 18 states, the District of Columbia and two provinces of Canada.

LIBRARY PENSIONS

The executive office of the A. L. A. wishes to know of libraries of the United States or Canada which have in operation a pension system, or which may be planning to institute such a system. The librarian of any such library will confer a favor on the secretary if he will write him briefly outlining any such system or plan.

LIBRARY DEDICATION PROGRAMS

The executive office would like to make a collection of library dedication programs, and would very much appreciate receipt of two copies of all such programs from all libraries, large or small, which have held dedication or opening exercises in the past ten years or so.

LEAGUE OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONS

Meeting of the Middle West Section,
Chicago, Jan. 1-3, 1913

The midwinter meeting of the middle-west section of the League of Library Commissions was held at Hotel Sherman, Chicago, January 1-3. There were present representatives of library commissions from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Oregon and Wisconsin, with an average attendance at each session of about 40. In the absence of the president, Mr. Milam of Indiana, Miss Elizabeth B. Wales, Missouri, 1st vice-president, presided.

The future of the traveling library was the subject for discussion on Wednesday afternoon, with special consideration of duplication of work by other agencies, such as the university, agricultural college, state

library and reading circle; open shelf vs. fixed collection; getting books into the parcel post; sub-lending through local public libraries; and traveling libraries for schools. On Thursday afternoon a round table on problems of rural library extension was conducted by Miss Baldwin of Minnesota, with discussion of legislative problems, such as tax levy, library boards, organization and administrative problems. The committee on parcel post presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

PARCEL POST

WHEREAS, the parcel post measure recently enacted excluded from its privileges all library books, much to the disappointment of the state library commissions which operate traveling library systems, and which had strongly urged its enactment when books were included in its provisions, and,

WHEREAS, there seems to be no sound reason why all articles of merely commercial importance should be transported at the lowest rate, while much needed material, educational in its nature, can be transported only at rates so high as to be absolutely prohibited for general use; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the League of Library Commissions urges the passage by Congress of some measure which will include library books and material at the lower rate of transportation provided by the parcel post, and that we favor either a consolidation of third and fourth class mail matter to secure a rate for books and printed matter equal to that of merchandise, or some other provision giving to books belonging to public libraries the parcel post rates, to the end that those living in rural communities be given access to library privileges.

The final session on Friday afternoon was devoted to committee reports and miscellaneous discussion.

The Publications Committee reported that a handbook to aid in library campaigns is in progress; that the list of periodicals for a small library has been revised by Mr. Walter of New York and the A. L. A. Publishing Board has been asked to print it. Miss Carey, Minnesota, reported on a list of books for the insane, which has been compiled by Miss Jones of

the McLean hospital, Waverly, Mass., from the shelf-list of that library, with assistance from Miss Robinson, Iowa, Miss Waugh, Nebraska, and Miss Carey, Minnesota. The publication of this list was recommended to the Publications Committee for favorable consideration.

The committee on charter provisions for public libraries reported that after conference with the A. L. A. committee it was decided that owing to variation in the laws of different states it was advisable to formulate general provisions for such charters, rather than outline a definite charter.

A letter from Mrs. Sneed, Georgia, chairman of the committee on federal prison libraries, announced that appropriations of \$2,500 each for the prisons at Atlanta and Fort Leavenworth and \$500 for McNeil Island have been included in the budget for the coming year. The committee on study outlines reported progress and the expectation that a number of outlines would be ready for publication by the next meeting of the league.

Mr. Kerr, on behalf of the Normal School Librarians in session, asked the co-operation of the league in securing the publication through the U. S. Dept. of Education of a School Library List, which could be used in all states, and of other special lists needed for school libraries and also in outlining a course in library work to be given in normal schools. These plans were heartily endorsed by the league and referred to its executive board for further action.

After resolutions of regret at the absence of the president and a vote of thanks to the Chicago Library Club for the entertainment of the previous evening, the meeting adjourned.

PRESERVATION OF NEWSPAPERS

Report of the Committee on "The Deterioration of Newsprint Paper" Made to the A. L. A. Council, January, 1913

It is unnecessary at this time to do more than call your attention to previous reports on the subject of the better preser-